

# Inconsistency-Tolerant Semantics Based on (Preferred) Repairs

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- 5 Complexity considerations
- 6 Implementations of (preferred) repair-based semantics
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# Settings: Databases and knowledge bases

## Terminology and syntax

Database or knowledge base (KB):  $\mathcal{K} = \langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T} \rangle$

- $\mathcal{D}$  dataset: set of facts (ground atoms)
- $\mathcal{T}$  logical theory: set of formulas in some language
  - integrity constraint language (database case)
    - denial constraints:  $\forall \vec{x} (\beta[\vec{x}] \wedge \epsilon[\vec{x}] \rightarrow \perp)$   
with  $\beta[\vec{x}]$  conjunction of relational atoms  
and  $\epsilon[\vec{x}]$  conjunction of inequality atoms
    - universal constraints:  $\forall \vec{x} (\beta[\vec{x}] \wedge \epsilon[\vec{x}] \rightarrow \bigvee_{i=1}^k \eta_i[\vec{x}])$
    - ...
  - ontology language (KB case)
    - description logic
    - Datalog<sup>±</sup> fragment
    - ...

Conjunctive query:  $q(\vec{x}) = \exists \vec{y} \varphi(\vec{x}, \vec{y})$  with  $\varphi(\vec{x}, \vec{y})$  conjunction of atoms

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## Semantics

Interpretation  $\mathcal{I} = (\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}})$

- Constant  $a$  interpreted as  $a^{\mathcal{I}} \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$ 
  - $a \neq b$  implies  $a^{\mathcal{I}} \neq b^{\mathcal{I}}$  if **unique name assumption** is made
  - $a^{\mathcal{I}} = a$  if **standard name assumption** is made
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Database: **closed world assumption**

- Special interpretation  $\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{D}}$ :  $P(c_1, \dots, c_n) \in \mathcal{D}$  iff  $(c_1, \dots, c_n) \in P^{\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{D}}}$
- $\mathcal{K}$  is consistent if  $\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{D}} \models \mathcal{T}$
- $\mathcal{K} \models q(\vec{a})$  if  $\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{D}} \models q(\vec{a})$

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KB: **open world assumption**

- **Models**: interpretations that satisfy all facts in  $\mathcal{D}$  and formulas in  $\mathcal{T}$
- $\mathcal{K}$  is consistent if it has some model
- $\mathcal{K} \models q(\vec{a})$  if  $q(\vec{a})$  holds in every model of  $\mathcal{K}$

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Database versus KB

- $\mathcal{D} = \{A(a)\}$  is inconsistent with **constraint**  $A(x) \rightarrow B(x)$
- $\mathcal{D} = \{A(a)\}$  and **ontological axiom**  $A(x) \rightarrow B(x)$  entail  $B(a)$

# Settings: Databases and knowledge bases

## Example

### Example of description logic ontology

$\text{Cancer} \sqcap \exists \text{primaryTumor.Lung} \sqsubseteq \text{LungCancer}$   
 $\text{SmallCellCarcinoma} \sqsubseteq \text{Cancer}$   
 $\text{Adenocarcinoma} \sqsubseteq \text{Cancer}$   
 $\text{Adenocarcinoma} \sqcap \text{SmallCellCarcinoma} \sqsubseteq \perp$   
(functional primaryTumor)  
 $\text{Lung} \sqcap \text{Breast} \sqsubseteq \perp$

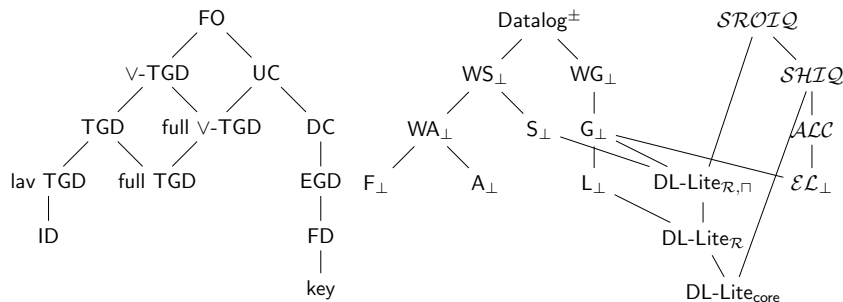
### Ontology translation in first-order logic OR database integrity constraints

$\text{Cancer}(x) \wedge \text{primaryTumor}(x, y) \wedge \text{Lung}(y) \rightarrow \text{LungCancer}(x)$   
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# Settings: Databases and knowledge bases

## Languages



**Figure:** Hierarchies of database integrity constraint languages (left) [Arming et al., 2016, Fig. 1] and of some ontology languages (right).

There is a downward path from  $\mathcal{L}_1$  to  $\mathcal{L}_2$  if any set of integrity constraints (resp. any ontology) in  $\mathcal{L}_2$  can be rewritten into an equivalent set of integrity constraints (resp. ontology) in  $\mathcal{L}_1$ .

# Handling inconsistent data

## Motivation

In real world, data often contains **errors**: human errors, automatic extraction, outdated information...

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  is likely to be **inconsistent** with  $\mathcal{T}$  (" $\mathcal{T}$ -inconsistent")

(focus on the case where  $\mathcal{T}$  is consistent and reliable)

Standard semantics when  $\mathcal{K} = \langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T} \rangle$  is inconsistent:

- KB case: no model of  $\mathcal{K} \Rightarrow$  **everything is entailed!**
- Database case: query **results may be inconsistent** with  $\mathcal{T}$

It is not always possible to resolve the inconsistencies (lack of information, time, permission...)

**Alternative semantics**: meaningful answers to queries despite inconsistencies

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 $\text{Lung}(x) \wedge \text{Breast}(x) \rightarrow \perp$

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$\mathcal{K} \models \exists y \text{hasDisease}(x, y) \wedge \text{LungCancer}(y)$  for  $x \in \{\text{bob}, d_1, d_2, o_1, o_2\}$

$\Rightarrow$  Use **inconsistency-tolerant semantics**

Ideas? What would you “reasonably” infer about Bob?

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- (Subset) repair: inclusion-maximal  $\mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathcal{D}$  such that  $\mathcal{R}$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -consistent
- CQA semantics: queries that hold in every repair

$\exists y \text{ hasDisease}(\text{bob}, y) \wedge \text{Cancer}(y)$       plausible/likely

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- (Subset) repair: inclusion-maximal  $\mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathcal{D}$  such that  $\mathcal{R}$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -consistent
- Brave semantics: queries that hold in some repair

$\exists y \text{ hasDisease}(\text{bob}, y) \wedge \text{LungCancer}(y)$       possible



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- Intersection semantics: queries that hold in the intersection of all repairs

$\exists y \text{ hasDisease}(\text{bob}, y)$       surest

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# Dataset repairs: Definition

- **Subset repair ( $\subseteq$ -repair)**: inclusion-maximal  $\mathcal{T}$ -consistent  $\mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathcal{D}$
- **Superset repair ( $\supseteq$ -repair)**: inclusion-minimal  $\mathcal{T}$ -consistent  $\mathcal{R} \supseteq \mathcal{D}$
- **Symmetric difference repair ( $\Delta$ -repair)**:  $\mathcal{T}$ -consistent  $\mathcal{R}$  such that there is no  $\mathcal{T}$ -consistent  $\mathcal{R}'$  with  $\mathcal{R}' \Delta \mathcal{D} \subsetneq \mathcal{R} \Delta \mathcal{D}$

Notation:  $S\text{-Rep}_x(\mathcal{K}) = S\text{-Rep}_x(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T})$  : set of all  $x$ -repairs of  $\mathcal{K} = \langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T} \rangle$

# Dataset repairs: Definition

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primaryTumor( $x, y$ )  $\rightarrow$  Cancer( $x$ )  
SmallCellCarcinoma( $x$ )  $\rightarrow$  Cancer( $x$ )  
Adenocarcinoma( $x$ )  $\rightarrow$  Cancer( $x$ )  
Adenocarcinoma( $x$ )  $\wedge$  SmallCellCarcinoma( $x$ )  $\rightarrow \perp$

primaryTumor( $d_1, o_1$ )  
SmallCellCarcinoma( $d_1$ )      Adenocarcinoma( $d_1$ )

$$S\text{-Rep}_{\Delta}(\mathcal{K}) = \{\emptyset, \{\text{primaryTumor}(d_1, o_1), \text{SmallCellCarcinoma}(d_1), \text{Cancer}(d_1)\}, \\ \{\text{primaryTumor}(d_1, o_1), \text{Adenocarcinoma}(d_1), \text{Cancer}(d_1)\}\}$$

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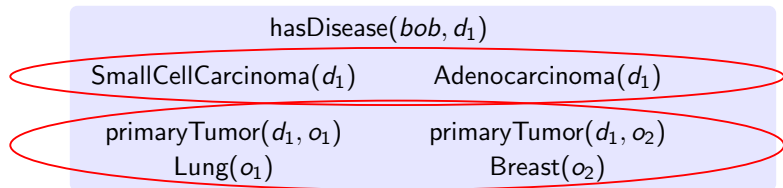
$\mathcal{K}$  inconsistent **KB or database with denial constraints**  $\Rightarrow S\text{-Rep}_{\supseteq}(\mathcal{K}) = \emptyset$  and  
 $S\text{-Rep}_{\Delta}(\mathcal{K}) = S\text{-Rep}_{\subseteq}(\mathcal{K}) = S\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K})$

# Dataset repairs: Characterization via conflict hypergraph

Case of a KB or database with denial constraints

**Conflict:** inclusion-minimal  $\mathcal{T}$ -inconsistent  $\mathcal{C} \subseteq \mathcal{D}$

$\Rightarrow$  **Conflict hypergraph**  $\mathcal{G}$ : vertices =  $\mathcal{D}$ , edges = conflicts of  $\mathcal{K}$



$\mathcal{R} \in S\text{-Rep}_{\subseteq}(\mathcal{K})$  iff  $\mathcal{R}$  is a maximal independent set of  $\mathcal{G}$

# Dataset repairs: Characterization via conflict hypergraph

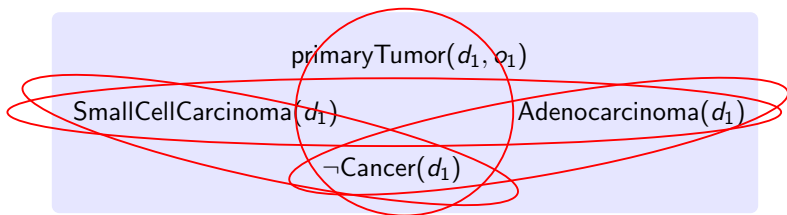
Case of a **database with universal constraints**: conflicts may contain **absent facts**

**Relevant facts**:  $Facts_{\mathcal{D}}^{\mathcal{T}} = \mathcal{D} \cup \{P(c_1, \dots, c_n) \mid P \text{ occurs in } \mathcal{T}, c_1, \dots, c_n \text{ occur in } \mathcal{D}\}$

**Literals** of  $\mathcal{D}$ :  $Lits_{\mathcal{D}}^{\mathcal{T}} = \mathcal{D} \cup \{\neg\alpha \mid \alpha \in Facts_{\mathcal{D}}^{\mathcal{T}} \setminus \mathcal{D}\}$

**Conflict**: inclusion-minimal  $\mathcal{C} \subseteq Lits_{\mathcal{D}}^{\mathcal{T}}$  such that  $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{C}$  implies  $\mathcal{I} \not\models \mathcal{T}$

$\Rightarrow$  **Conflict hypergraph**  $\mathcal{G}$ : vertices =  $Lits_{\mathcal{D}}^{\mathcal{T}}$ , edges = conflicts of  $\mathcal{K}$

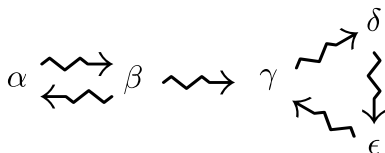


$\mathcal{R} \in S\text{-Rep}_{\Delta}(\mathcal{K})$  iff  $Int_{\mathcal{D}}(\mathcal{R})$  is a maximal independent set of  $\mathcal{G}$

where  $Int_{\mathcal{D}}(\mathcal{R}) = (\mathcal{R} \cap \mathcal{D}) \cup \{\neg\alpha \mid \alpha \in Facts_{\mathcal{D}}^{\mathcal{T}} \setminus (\mathcal{R} \cup \mathcal{D})\}$  is the set of literals upon which  $\mathcal{R}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$  agree

# Dataset repairs: Connections with abstract argumentation

**Abstract argumentation:** well-known framework to deal with contradictory information in AI



An **(abstract) argumentation framework (AF)** is a pair  **$(Args, \rightsquigarrow)$**  where

- $Args$  is a finite set of arguments
- $\rightsquigarrow \subseteq Args \times Args$  is the attack relation:  $\alpha$  **attacks**  $\beta$  if  $\alpha \rightsquigarrow \beta$

+ variant of AF with collective attacks: **set-based AF (SETAF)**

- **collective attacks**  $S \rightsquigarrow \alpha$  with  $S$  finite set of arguments

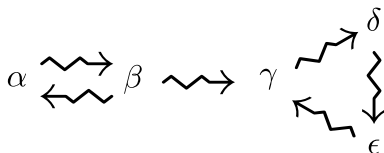
Semantics based on **extensions** (sets of arguments that represent coherent points of view) + inference mechanism (skeptical or credulous)



# Dataset repairs: Connections with abstract argumentation

Several different notions of extension, in particular:

- **Naïve extension**:  $\subseteq$ -maximal conflict-free set of arguments
- **Preferred extension**:  $\subseteq$ -maximal conflict-free self-defending set (i.e., attacks all arguments that attack some of its arguments)
- **Stable extension**: conflict-free set attacking all excluded arguments



Naïve:  $\{\alpha, \gamma\}$ ,  $\{\alpha, \delta\}$ ,  $\{\alpha, \epsilon\}$ ,  
 $\{\beta, \delta\}$ ,  $\{\beta, \epsilon\}$

Preferred:  $\{\alpha\}$ ,  $\{\beta, \delta\}$

Stable:  $\{\beta, \delta\}$

Stable extensions are also preferred extensions

**Coherent (SET)AF**: stable and preferred extensions coincide

# Dataset repairs: Connections with abstract argumentation

Translation of a KB (or database with denial constraints)  $\mathcal{K} = \langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T} \rangle$  without self-conflicting fact into a SETAF  $F_{\mathcal{K}}$

- Use  $\mathcal{D}$  as the arguments
- Define attacks by  $\mathcal{C} \setminus \{\alpha\} \rightsquigarrow \alpha$  for every conflict  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\alpha \in \mathcal{C}$

$\mathcal{R} \in S\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K})$  iff  $\mathcal{R}$  is a naïve/preferred/stable extension of  $F_{\mathcal{K}}$

# Dataset repairs: Connections with abstract argumentation

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Possible to adapt this translation to databases with universal constraints by considering literals instead of facts

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Possible to adapt this translation to databases with universal constraints by considering literals instead of facts

For integrity constraints with **existential quantifier in the head**, conflicts are not defined but a connection between  **$\subseteq$ -repairs** of databases with dependencies of the form  $P(\vec{x}) \rightarrow \exists \vec{y} Q[\vec{x}, \vec{y}]$  and  $P(\vec{x}) \wedge P(\vec{y}) \wedge \bigwedge_{i \in I} x_i = y_i \rightarrow \bigwedge_{j \in J} x_j = y_j$  and AF extensions has been shown [Mahmood et al., 2024]

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# Repair-based inconsistency-tolerant semantics

## CQA, intersection and brave semantics

- $\vec{a}$  is an answer to  $q(\vec{x})$  over  $\mathcal{K} = \langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T} \rangle$  under **CQA semantics** iff  $\langle \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{T} \rangle \models q(\vec{a})$  for every  $\mathcal{R} \in S\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K})$
- $\vec{a}$  is an answer to  $q(\vec{x})$  over  $\mathcal{K} = \langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T} \rangle$  under **intersection semantics** iff  $\langle \mathcal{R}_\cap, \mathcal{T} \rangle \models q(\vec{a})$  where  $\mathcal{R}_\cap = \bigcap_{\mathcal{R} \in S\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K})} \mathcal{R}$
- $\vec{a}$  is an answer to  $q(\vec{x})$  over  $\mathcal{K} = \langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T} \rangle$  under **brave semantics** iff  $\langle \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{T} \rangle \models q(\vec{a})$  for some  $\mathcal{R} \in S\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K})$

[Arenas et al., 1999, Lembo et al., 2010, Bienvenu and Rosati, 2013]

# Repair-based inconsistency-tolerant semantics

## CQA, intersection and brave semantics

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[Arenas et al., 1999, Lembo et al., 2010, Bienvenu and Rosati, 2013]

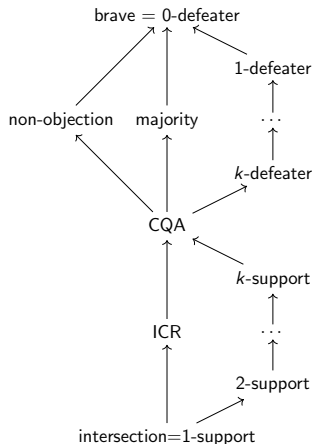
- CQA is the most well-known and accepted semantics
- CQA is usually **intractable** (coNP-complete in data complexity even for very basic ontology/constraint languages)
- Intersection and brave: under- and over- **approximations** of CQA:

intersection  $\rightarrow$  CQA  $\rightarrow$  brave

- Intersection and brave are **tractable for denial constraints and some simple ontology languages**

# Repair-based inconsistency-tolerant semantics

## Overview of other repair-based semantics



	Semantics with the property
Consistent Support	all
Consistent Results	intersection, ICR, $k$ -support, CQA, non-objection
Unique Base	intersection, ICR

- Consistent Support: for every  $\langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T} \rangle$ ,  $q(\vec{x})$  and  $\vec{a}$ , if  $\langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T} \rangle \models_{\text{Sem}} q(\vec{a})$ , then there exists a  $\mathcal{T}$ -consistent subset  $\mathcal{S}$  of  $\mathcal{D}$  such that  $\langle \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{T} \rangle \models q(\vec{a})$ .
- Consistent Results: for every  $\langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T} \rangle$ , there exists a model  $\mathcal{I}$  of  $\mathcal{T}$  such that for every  $q(\vec{x})$  and  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T} \rangle \models_{\text{Sem}} q(\vec{a})$  implies  $\mathcal{I} \models q(\vec{a})$ .
- Unique Base: for every  $\langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T} \rangle$ , there exists a  $\mathcal{T}$ -consistent dataset  $\mathcal{D}'$  such that for every  $q(\vec{x})$  and  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T} \rangle \models_{\text{Sem}} q(\vec{a})$  iff  $\langle \mathcal{D}', \mathcal{T} \rangle \models q(\vec{a})$ .

**Figure:** (left) Relationships between repair-based semantics (adapted from [Bienvenu, 2020]):  $\text{Sem} \rightarrow \text{Sem}'$  means that  $\mathcal{K} \models_{\text{Sem}} q(\vec{a})$  implies  $\mathcal{K} \models_{\text{Sem}'} q(\vec{a})$ . (right) Properties of repair-based semantics (adapted from [Bienvenu, 2020]).



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# Preferred repairs

In many scenarios, define **preferred repairs** based on some preference information

- Relative or absolute reliability of facts
- Preference rules
- ...

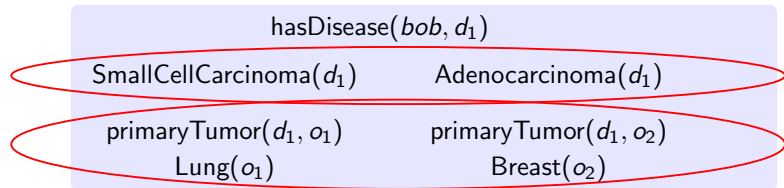
# Preferred repairs

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- ...

Impact of using preferred repairs on **repair-based semantics**

- **More answers** hold under **CQA/intersection**
- **Less answers** hold under **brave**
- Relationships between semantics are preserved



Assume two preferred repairs below, which consequences ?

$\{\text{hasDisease}(\text{bob}, d_1), \text{SmallCellCarcinoma}(d_1), \text{primaryTumor}(d_1, o_1), \text{Lung}(o_1)\}$

$\{\text{hasDisease}(\text{bob}, d_1), \text{Adenocarcinoma}(d_1), \text{primaryTumor}(d_1, o_1), \text{Lung}(o_1)\}$

# Preferred repairs based on a preorder over datasets

Generalization of the definition of dataset repairs

Strictly  $\subseteq$ -monotone preorder  $\preceq$ : reflexive and transitive binary relation over datasets such that  $\mathcal{B} \subset \mathcal{B}'$  implies  $\mathcal{B} \prec \mathcal{B}'$

- $\preceq$ -optimal  $\subseteq$ -repair:  $\mathcal{T}$ -consistent dataset  $\mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathcal{D}$  such that there is no  $\mathcal{T}$ -consistent  $\mathcal{R}' \subseteq \mathcal{D}$  such that  $\mathcal{R} \prec \mathcal{R}'$
- $\preceq$ -optimal  $\Delta$ -repair:  $\mathcal{T}$ -consistent dataset  $\mathcal{R}$  such that there is no  $\mathcal{T}$ -consistent  $\mathcal{R}'$  such that  $\mathcal{R}' \Delta \mathcal{D} \prec \mathcal{R} \Delta \mathcal{D}$

$\preceq$  strictly  $\subseteq$ -monotone implies that  $\preceq$ -optimal  $\subseteq$ -repairs are indeed  $\subseteq$ -repairs, and  $\preceq$ -optimal  $\Delta$ -repairs are  $\Delta$ -repairs

# Preferred repairs based on a preorder over datasets

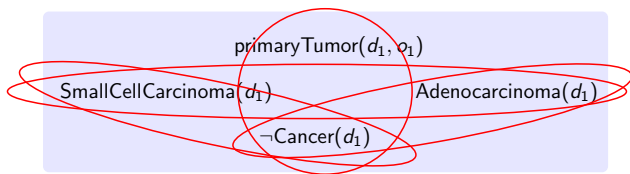
$\leq$ -optimal repairs

Cardinality-based repairs:

[Lopatenko and Bertossi, 2007]

$$\mathcal{B} \leq \mathcal{B}' \text{ iff } |\mathcal{B}| \leq |\mathcal{B}'|$$

- Fewest modifications
- Appropriate when all facts/literals have same probability of being erroneous



$$S\text{-Rep}_\Delta(\mathcal{K}) = \{\emptyset, \{\text{primaryTumor}(d_1, o_1), \text{SmallCellCarcinoma}(d_1), \text{Cancer}(d_1)\}, \\ \{\text{primaryTumor}(d_1, o_1), \text{Adenocarcinoma}(d_1), \text{Cancer}(d_1)\}\}$$

$\leq$ -optimal:  $\{\text{primaryTumor}(d_1, o_1), \text{SmallCellCarcinoma}(d_1), \text{Cancer}(d_1)\}$   
 $\{\text{primaryTumor}(d_1, o_1), \text{Adenocarcinoma}(d_1), \text{Cancer}(d_1)\}$

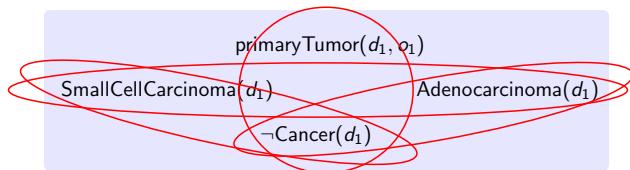
# Preferred repairs based on a preorder over datasets

$\leq_w$ -optimal repairs

**Weight-based repairs:** function  $w$  assigns weights to facts [Du et al., 2013]

$$\mathcal{B} \leq_w \mathcal{B}' \text{ iff } \sum_{\alpha \in \mathcal{B}} w(\alpha) \leq \sum_{\alpha \in \mathcal{B}'} w(\alpha)$$

- Model the reliability of facts of  $\mathcal{D}$ : the higher weight, the more reliable
- $\Delta$ -repair case:  $w$  assigns weights to all possible facts
  - example: same weight to all facts that do not belong to  $\mathcal{D}$



$$S\text{-Rep}_\Delta(\mathcal{K}) = \{\emptyset, \{\text{primaryTumor}(d_1, o_1), \text{SmallCellCarcinoma}(d_1), \text{Cancer}(d_1)\}, \\ \{\text{primaryTumor}(d_1, o_1), \text{Adenocarcinoma}(d_1), \text{Cancer}(d_1)\}\}$$

Let  $w(\text{Cancer}) = 5$ ,  $w(\text{SmallCell}) = 4$  and  $w(\text{primary}) = w(\text{Adeno}) = 1$

$\leq_w$ -optimal:  $\emptyset$

$$\{\text{primaryTumor}(d_1, o_1), \text{SmallCellCarcinoma}(d_1), \text{Cancer}(d_1)\}$$

# Preferred repairs based on a preorder over datasets

$\subseteq_P$ - and  $\leq_P$ -optimal repairs

Two kinds of repairs based on **priority levels**

**Prioritization**  $P = \langle \mathcal{P}_1, \dots, \mathcal{P}_n \rangle$ : disjoint datasets such that  $\mathcal{D} = \bigcup_{i=1}^n \mathcal{P}_i$

- $\mathcal{P}_1$ : most reliable,  $\mathcal{P}_n$ : least reliable
- Facts coming from different sources, part of the dataset already validated versus recent additions, relative reliability of predicates...
- Best suited when there is a significant difference in the perceived reliability
- $\Delta$ -repair case: prioritization of literals ( $Lits_{\mathcal{D}}^T$ )

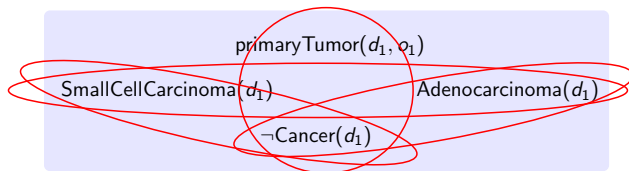
# Preferred repairs based on a preorder over datasets

$\subseteq_P$ -optimal repairs

Prioritized set inclusion:

[Bienvenu et al., 2014]

$\mathcal{B} \subseteq_P \mathcal{B}'$  iff either  $\mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{P}_i = \mathcal{B}' \cap \mathcal{P}_i$  for every  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  
or there is some  $1 \leq i \leq n$  such that  
 $\mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{P}_i \subsetneq \mathcal{B}' \cap \mathcal{P}_i$  and  $\mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{P}_j = \mathcal{B}' \cap \mathcal{P}_j$  for  $1 \leq j < i$



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Let  $\mathcal{P}_1 = \{\text{SmallCell}, \neg\text{Cancer}\}$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_2 = \{\text{Adeno}, \text{primary}\}$

$\subseteq_P$ -optimal:  $\emptyset$

$\{\text{primaryTumor}(d_1, o_1), \text{SmallCellCarcinoma}(d_1), \text{Cancer}(d_1)\}$



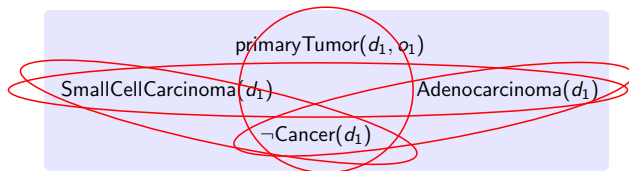
# Preferred repairs based on a preorder over datasets

$\leq_P$ -optimal repairs

Prioritized cardinality:

[Bienvenu et al., 2014]

$\mathcal{B} \leq_P \mathcal{B}'$  iff either  $|\mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{P}_i| = |\mathcal{B}' \cap \mathcal{P}_i|$  for every  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  
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Let  $\mathcal{P}_1 = \{\text{SmallCell}, \neg\text{Cancer}\}$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_2 = \{\text{Adeno}, \text{primary}\}$

$\leq_P$ -optimal:  $\{\text{primaryTumor}(d_1, o_1), \text{SmallCellCarcinoma}(d_1), \text{Cancer}(d_1)\}$

# Preferred repairs based on a preorder over datasets

$\leq_-$ ,  $\leq_{w^-}$ ,  $\subseteq_{P^-}$  and  $\leq_P$ -optimal repairs

## Properties and relationships

- **Weight-based** repairs generalize **cardinality-based** repairs
  - let  $w$  assign the same weight to every fact
- **Weight-based** repairs generalize repairs based on **prioritized cardinality**
  - let  $u = (\max_{i=1}^n |\mathcal{P}_i|) + 1$  and  $w(\alpha) = u^{n-i}$  for every  $\alpha \in \mathcal{P}_i$
- If  $P = \langle \mathcal{P}_1 \rangle$ , then  $\subseteq_{P^-}$ -optimal = standard and  $\leq_P$ -optimal =  $\leq_-$ -optimal

# Optimal repairs based on a priority relation

KB or denial constraints case

When information about **relative reliability of facts** is available, define **priorities between conflicting facts**

Examples of possible preferences

[Bienvenu et al., 2025]

- Prefer **more recent (updated)** or **older (curated)** facts

Fact	Date
primaryTumor( $d_1, o_1$ )	08.10.2023
primaryTumor( $d_1, o_2$ )	05.22.2023

most recent fact gives the last, revised, diagnosis

$\Rightarrow$  primaryTumor( $d_1, o_1$ )  $\succ$  primaryTumor( $d_1, o_2$ )

# Optimal repairs based on a priority relation

## KB or denial constraints case

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Examples of possible preferences

[Bienvenu et al., 2025]

- Prefer **more recent (updated)** or **older (curated)** facts
- Prefer facts that **come from some source (process, user...)**

Fact	Source
Adenocarcinoma( $d_1$ )	X-ray report
SmallCellCarcinoma( $d_1$ )	biopsy report

the second diagnostic method is more reliable

$\Rightarrow$  SmallCellCarcinoma( $d_1$ )  $\succ$  Adenocarcinoma( $d_1$ )

# Optimal repairs based on a priority relation

## KB or denial constraints case

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Examples of possible preferences

[Bienvenu et al., 2025]

- Prefer **more recent (updated)** or **older (curated)** facts
- Prefer facts that **come from some source (process, user...)**
- Take into account **presence or absence of other facts in the dataset**

```
hasDisease(bob, d1),  
primaryTumor(d1, o1), Lung(o1),  
primaryTumor(d1, o2), Breast(o2),  
gotSurgery(bob, s), BronchialDebridement(s)
```

the dataset indicates that the patient got a surgery common in the case of lung cancer but nothing about a breast cancer treatment

$\Rightarrow$   $\text{primaryTumor}(d_1, o_1), \text{Lung}(o_1) \succ \text{primaryTumor}(d_1, o_2), \text{Breast}(o_2)$

# Optimal repairs based on a priority relation

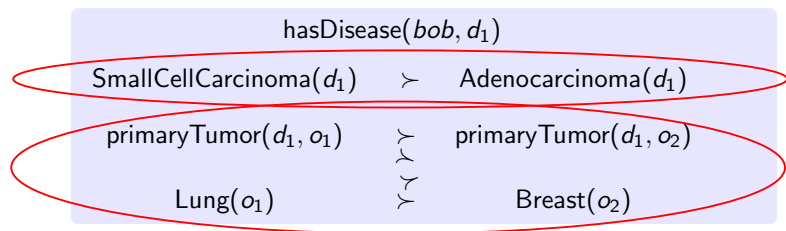
## KB or denial constraints case

When information about **relative reliability of facts** is available, define **priorities between conflicting facts**

Examples of possible preferences

[Bienvenu et al., 2025]

- Prefer **more recent (updated)** or **older (curated)** facts
- Prefer facts that **come from some source (process, user...)**
- Take into account **presence or absence of other facts in the dataset**
- ...

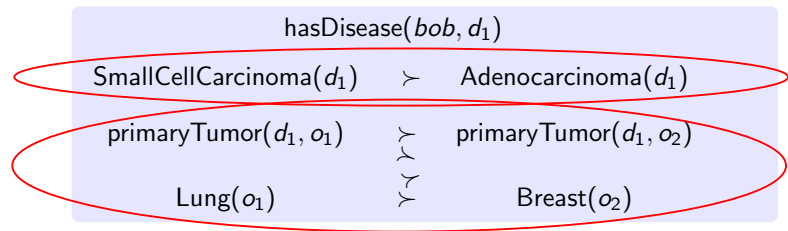


# Optimal repairs based on a priority relation

KB or denial constraints case

Formally:

- Priority relation  $\succ$ : acyclic binary relation over  $\mathcal{D}$  such that  $\alpha \succ \beta$  implies  $\{\alpha, \beta\} \subseteq \mathcal{C}$  for some conflict  $\mathcal{C}$
- Prioritized KB (or database with denial constraints)  $\mathcal{K}_{\succ} = (\mathcal{K}, \succ)$

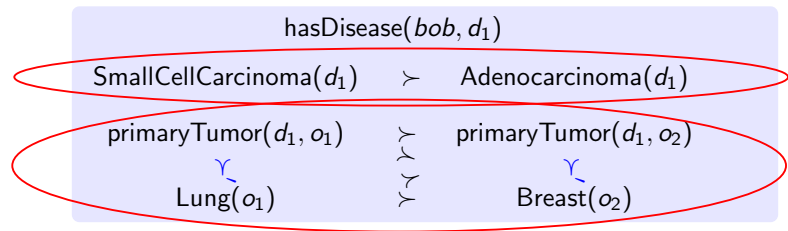


# Optimal repairs based on a priority relation

## KB or denial constraints case

Formally:

- Priority relation  $\succ$ : acyclic binary relation over  $\mathcal{D}$  such that  $\alpha \succ \beta$  implies  $\{\alpha, \beta\} \subseteq \mathcal{C}$  for some conflict  $\mathcal{C}$
- Prioritized KB (or database with denial constraints)  $\mathcal{K}_\succ = (\mathcal{K}, \succ)$



- $\succ$  is **total** if for all  $\alpha \neq \beta$  such that  $\{\alpha, \beta\} \subseteq \mathcal{C}$  for some conflict  $\mathcal{C}$ , either  $\alpha \succ \beta$  or  $\beta \succ \alpha$
- **Completion of  $\succ$** : total priority relation  $\succ' \supseteq \succ$ 
  - example: complete  $\succ$  with `primaryTumor(d1, o1)  $\succ'$  Lung(o1)` and `primaryTumor(d1, o2)  $\succ'$  Breast(o2)`



# Optimal repairs based on a priority relation

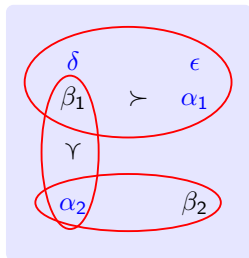
KB or denial constraints case

Three notions of optimal repair

[Staworko et al., 2012]

Let  $\mathcal{R}$  be a repair of  $\mathcal{K}$  ( $\mathcal{R} \in S\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K})$ )

- A **Pareto improvement** of  $\mathcal{R}$  is a  $\mathcal{T}$ -consistent  $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \mathcal{D}$  such that **there is**  $\beta \in \mathcal{B} \setminus \mathcal{R}$  with  $\beta \succ \alpha$  for every  $\alpha \in \mathcal{R} \setminus \mathcal{B}$
- $\mathcal{R}$  is **Pareto-optimal** ( $\mathcal{R} \in P\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K}_{\succ})$ ) if there is **no Pareto improvement** of  $\mathcal{R}$



$$\{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \delta, \epsilon\} \in S\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K})$$

$$\{\beta_1, \delta, \epsilon\} \text{ Pareto improvement}$$

$$\Rightarrow \{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \delta, \epsilon\} \notin P\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K}_{\succ})$$

# Optimal repairs based on a priority relation

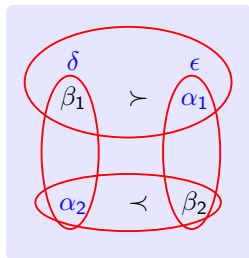
KB or denial constraints case

Three notions of optimal repair

[Staworko et al., 2012]

Let  $\mathcal{R}$  be a repair of  $\mathcal{K}$  ( $\mathcal{R} \in \text{S-Rep}(\mathcal{K})$ )

- A **global improvement** of  $\mathcal{R}$  is a  $\mathcal{T}$ -consistent  $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \mathcal{D}$  such that  $\mathcal{B} \neq \mathcal{R}$  and for every  $\alpha \in \mathcal{R} \setminus \mathcal{B}$ , there is  $\beta \in \mathcal{B} \setminus \mathcal{R}$  such that  $\beta \succ \alpha$
- $\mathcal{R}$  is **globally-optimal** ( $\mathcal{R} \in \text{G-Rep}(\mathcal{K}_{\succ})$ ) if there is **no global improvement** of  $\mathcal{R}$



$$\{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \delta, \epsilon\} \in P\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K}_{\succ})$$

$$\{\beta_1, \beta_2, \delta, \epsilon\} \text{ global improvement}$$

$$\Rightarrow \{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \delta, \epsilon\} \notin G\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K}_{\succ})$$

# Optimal repairs based on a priority relation

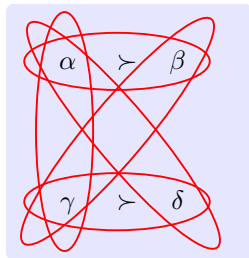
KB or denial constraints case

Three notions of optimal repair

[Staworko et al., 2012]

Let  $\mathcal{R}$  be a repair of  $\mathcal{K}$  ( $\mathcal{R} \in S\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K})$ )

- $\mathcal{R}$  is **completion-optimal** ( $\mathcal{R} \in C\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K}_{\succ})$ ) if  $\mathcal{R}$  is globally-optimal w.r.t. some completion  $\succ'$  of  $\succ$
- Equivalently: obtained by **greedily selecting some fact maximal w.r.t.  $\succ$  among those not yet considered**, and keeping it if still consistent



Subset repairs

$$S\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K}) = \{ \{ \alpha \}, \{ \gamma \}, \{ \beta, \delta \} \}$$

Pareto- and globally-optimal

$$P\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K}_{\succ}) = G\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K}_{\succ}) = \{ \{ \alpha \}, \{ \gamma \}, \{ \beta, \delta \} \}$$

Completion-optimal

$$C\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K}_{\succ}) = \{ \{ \alpha \}, \{ \gamma \} \}$$

# Optimal repairs based on a priority relation

KB or denial constraints case

Three notions of optimal repair

[Staworko et al., 2012]

$$C\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K}_{\succ}) \subseteq G\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K}_{\succ}) \subseteq P\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K}_{\succ}) \subseteq S\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K})$$

# Optimal repairs based on a priority relation

KB or denial constraints case

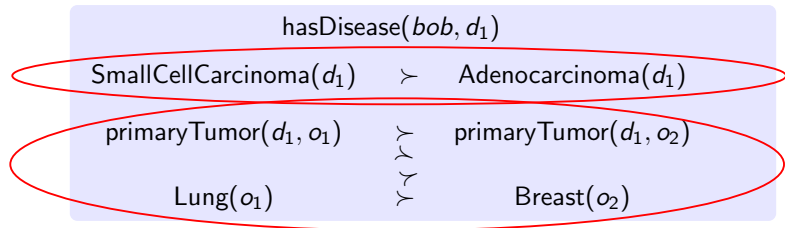
Three notions of optimal repair

[Staworko et al., 2012]

$$C\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K}_{\succ}) \subseteq G\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K}_{\succ}) \subseteq P\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K}_{\succ}) \subseteq S\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K})$$

If  $\succ$  is **score-structured** (i.e., can be induced by assigning scores to facts and from which we can obtain a prioritization  $P$  of  $\mathcal{D}$ ), then

$$C\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K}_{\succ}) = G\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K}_{\succ}) = P\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K}_{\succ}) = \subseteq_P\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K})$$



$\{\text{hasDisease}(\text{bob}, d_1), \text{SmallCellCarcinoma}(d_1), \text{primaryTumor}(d_1, o_1), \text{Lung}(o_1), \text{primaryTumor}(d_1, o_2)\}$

$\{\text{hasDisease}(\text{bob}, d_1), \text{SmallCellCarcinoma}(d_1), \text{primaryTumor}(d_1, o_1), \text{Lung}(o_1), \text{Breast}(o_2)\}$

# Optimal repairs based on a priority relation

Database with universal constraints case

All definitions and results extend to database with **universal constraints** by considering **literals** from  $Lits_{\mathcal{D}}^{\mathcal{T}}$  instead of facts from  $\mathcal{D}$

[Bienvenu and Bourgaux, 2023]

# Optimal repairs based on a priority relation

Links with abstract argumentation

Preference-based set based argumentation framework (PSETAF)

- Preference relation  $\succ$  between arguments
- Refines the attack relation:  $S \rightsquigarrow_{\succ} \alpha$  if  $S \rightsquigarrow \alpha$  and  $\alpha \not\succeq \beta$  for every  $\beta \in S$

# Optimal repairs based on a priority relation

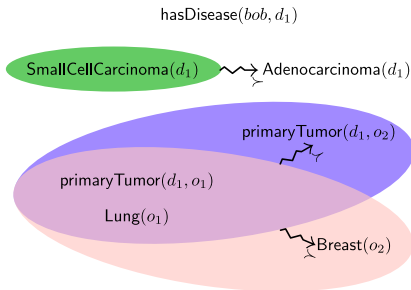
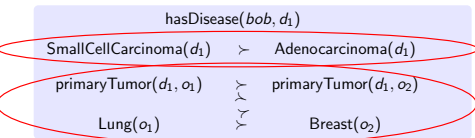
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Translation of a prioritized KB  $\mathcal{K}_{\succ} = (\mathcal{K}, \succ)$  into a PSETAF  $F_{\mathcal{K}, \succ}$

- Use  $\mathcal{D}$  as the arguments
- Use  $\succ$  as the preference relation
- Define attacks by  $\mathcal{C} \setminus \{\alpha\} \rightsquigarrow \alpha$  for every conflict  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\alpha \in \mathcal{C}$   
 $\Rightarrow \mathcal{C} \setminus \{\alpha\} \rightsquigarrow_{\succ} \alpha$  if  $\alpha \not\succ \beta$  for every  $\beta \in \mathcal{C}$





# Optimal repairs based on a priority relation

Links with abstract argumentation

$\mathcal{R}$  is a Pareto-optimal repair of  $\mathcal{K}_{\succ}$   
iff  
 $\mathcal{R}$  is a stable extension of  $F_{\mathcal{K},\succ}$

If  $\succ$  is transitive or if  $\mathcal{K}$  has only binary conflicts, then  $F_{\mathcal{K},\succ}$  is coherent:

$\mathcal{R}$  is a Pareto-optimal repair of  $\mathcal{K}_{\succ}$   
iff  
 $\mathcal{R}$  is a preferred extension of  $F_{\mathcal{K},\succ}$

No notion of extension corresponds to globally- or completion-optimal

[Bienvenu and Bourgaux, 2020]

# Optimal repairs based on a priority relation

Links with abstract argumentation

The **grounded extension** of a (PSET)AF is the **minimal conflict-free set of arguments that contains all arguments that it defends**

- Add all arguments with no incoming attacks
- Iteratively add arguments defended by the selected arguments

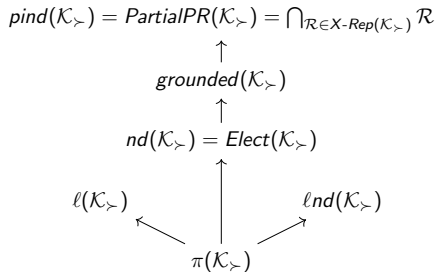
⇒ **Grounded semantics for prioritized KB**: query grounded extension of  $F_{\mathcal{K}, \succ}$

- **P-complete** data complexity for **DL-Lite** KBs
- **Under-approximation of intersection semantics based on Pareto-optimal repairs**

“**Grounded repair**”: in the line of research that aims at selecting a **single consistent set of facts** to query (“unique repair”) from a prioritized KB (with  $\succ$  often induced by prioritization  $P = \langle \mathcal{P}_1, \dots, \mathcal{P}_n \rangle$ )

# Optimal repairs based on a priority relation

## Relationships with “unique repairs”



- Polynomial computation:  
given the conflict hypergraph and  $\succ$ ,  
the repair can be computed in  
polynomial time  
 $\implies$  holds for all but  $pind(\mathcal{K}_{\succ})$
- Complete w.r.t. isolated vertices:  
contains all facts that do not belong to  
any conflict (i.e., includes  
 $\mathcal{R}_{\cap} = \bigcap_{\mathcal{R} \in S\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K})} \mathcal{R}$ )  
 $\implies$  holds for all but  $\pi(\mathcal{K}_{\succ})$ ,  $\ell(\mathcal{K}_{\succ})$
- Sound w.r.t. prioritized intersection:  
included in the intersection of  
optimal repairs  
 $\implies$  holds for all but  $\ell(\mathcal{K}_{\succ})$ ,  
 $\ell nd(\mathcal{K}_{\succ})$

**Figure:** (left) Relationships between “unique repairs” when  $\succ$  is induced by a prioritization: an arrow  $X \rightarrow Y$  means that  $X \subseteq Y$

[Benferhat et al., 2015, Belabbes et al., 2021, Bienvenu and Bourgaux, 2020]

(right) Relevant properties [Benferhat et al., 2015, Bienvenu and Bourgaux, 2020]

# Optimal repairs based on a priority relation

## Links with active integrity constraints

In the database setting, **active integrity constraints** state how to resolve constraint violations: high-level similarities with prioritized databases

Example of **denial constraint** and **active denial constraint**:

$$\text{Child}(x) \wedge \text{Adult}(x) \rightarrow \perp$$

$$\text{Child}(x) \wedge \text{Adult}(x) \rightarrow \{-\text{Child}(x)\}$$

Example of **universal constraint** and **active universal constraint**:

$$\text{Lung}(x) \wedge \neg \text{LeftLg}(x) \wedge \neg \text{RightLg}(x) \rightarrow \perp$$

$$\text{Lung}(x) \wedge \neg \text{LeftLg}(x) \wedge \neg \text{RightLg}(x) \rightarrow \{+\text{LeftLg}(x), +\text{RightLg}(x)\}$$

A ground **active integrity constraint (AIC)** is a formula of the form

$$\alpha_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \alpha_n \wedge \neg \beta_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \neg \beta_m \rightarrow \{A_1, \dots, A_k\}$$

with **update actions**  $A_i$  of the form  $-\alpha_j$  or  $+\beta_j$

# Optimal repairs based on a priority relation

## Links with active integrity constraints

Semantics based on **repair updates**:  $\mathcal{U}$  **set of update actions** such that  $\mathcal{D} \circ \mathcal{U}$  is a **repair**, where  $\mathcal{D} \circ \mathcal{U} = \mathcal{D} \setminus \{\alpha \mid -\alpha \in \mathcal{U}\} \cup \{\alpha \mid +\alpha \in \mathcal{U}\}$

Several different notions of repair update, in particular:

- **Founded**: for every  $A \in \mathcal{U}$ , there is an AIC  $r$  with update action  $A$  and  $\mathcal{D} \circ \mathcal{U} \setminus \{A\} \not\models r$
- **Well-founded**: there exists a sequence of actions  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  such that  $\mathcal{U} = \{A_1, \dots, A_n\}$ , and for every  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , there is  $r_i$  with update action  $A_i$  and  $\mathcal{D} \circ \{A_1, \dots, A_{i-1}\} \not\models r_i$
- **Grounded** (for normalized AICs: single update action): for every  $\mathcal{V} \subsetneq \mathcal{U}$ , there is  $r$  whose update action is in  $\mathcal{U} \setminus \mathcal{V}$  and  $\mathcal{D} \circ \mathcal{V} \not\models r$
- **Justified**...

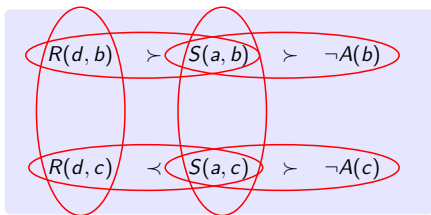


# Optimal repairs based on a priority relation

Links with active integrity constraints

Translation of prioritized database (univ. constraints)  $\mathcal{K}_{\succ}$  into ground AICs

- $\eta_{\succ}^T = \{r_{\mathcal{C}} \mid \mathcal{C} \text{ conflict}\}$  where  $\text{fix}(\alpha) = -\alpha$ ,  $\text{fix}(-\alpha) = +\alpha$  and  
 $r_{\mathcal{C}} := \bigwedge_{\lambda \in \mathcal{C}} \lambda \rightarrow \{\text{fix}(\lambda) \mid \lambda \in \mathcal{C}, \forall \mu \in \mathcal{C}, \lambda \not\succ \mu\}$
- Conflicts fixed by modifying least preferred literals according to  $\succ$



$$\begin{aligned} S(a, b) \wedge S(a, c) &\rightarrow \{-S(a, b), -S(a, c)\} \\ R(d, b) \wedge R(d, c) &\rightarrow \{-R(d, b), -R(d, c)\} \\ R(d, b) \wedge S(a, b) &\rightarrow \{-S(a, b)\} \\ R(d, c) \wedge S(a, c) &\rightarrow \{-R(d, c)\} \\ S(a, b) \wedge \neg A(b) &\rightarrow \{+A(b)\} \\ S(a, c) \wedge \neg A(c) &\rightarrow \{+A(c)\} \end{aligned}$$

For denial constraints: data-independent reduction to non-ground AICs  
(assuming the priority relation is stored in the database)

# Optimal repairs based on a priority relation

Links with active integrity constraints

Pareto  $\equiv$  Founded  $\equiv$  Grounded  $\equiv$  Justified  $\Rightarrow$  Well-Founded

$\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{D} \circ \mathcal{U}$  is a Pareto-optimal repair of  $\mathcal{K}_{\succ}$

iff

$\mathcal{U}$  is a founded repair update of  $\mathcal{D}$  w.r.t.  $\eta_{\succ}^{\mathcal{T}}$

iff

$\mathcal{U}$  is a grounded repair update of  $\mathcal{D}$  w.r.t.  $\eta_{\succ}^{\mathcal{T}}$

iff

$\mathcal{U}$  is a justified repair update of  $\mathcal{D}$  w.r.t.  $\eta_{\succ}^{\mathcal{T}}$

[Bienvenu and Bourgaux, 2023]

# Preferred repairs based on preference rules

## Definition

Define **preference rules** that must be maximally satisfied by the repairs

- **Preference program**  $\Pi$ : set of preference rules of form  
 $P[\vec{x}] \succ Q[\vec{y}] \leftarrow \exists \vec{z} \varphi[\vec{z}, \vec{w}]$ 
  - $\text{Lung}(x) \succ \text{Breast}(x) \leftarrow \exists y \text{ primaryTumor}(y, x) \wedge \text{LungCancer}(y)$
- $\mathcal{B}$  satisfies ground preference rule  $P(\vec{a}) \succ Q(\vec{b}) \leftarrow \exists \vec{z} \varphi[\vec{z}, \vec{c}]$  if  
 $\langle \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{T} \rangle \models \exists \vec{z} \varphi[\vec{z}, \vec{c}]$  implies that  $\langle \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{T} \rangle \not\models Q(\vec{b})$  or  $\langle \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{T} \rangle \models P(\vec{a})$ 
  - $\{\text{primaryTumor}(d, o), \text{LungCancer}(d), \text{Breast}(o)\}$  ✗
  - $\{\text{primaryTumor}(d, o), \text{LungCancer}(d), \text{Lung}(o)\}$  ✓
  - $\{\text{primaryTumor}(d, o), \text{LungCancer}(d)\}$  ✓
  - $\emptyset$  ✓
- For  $\trianglelefteq \in \{\subseteq, \leq\}$ , repair  $\mathcal{R}$  is  **$\Pi_{\trianglelefteq}$ -preferred** iff there is no repair  $\mathcal{R}'$  such that  $\text{GrSat}(\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{K}_{\Pi}) \triangleleft \text{GrSat}(\mathcal{R}', \mathcal{K}_{\Pi})$ , where  $\text{GrSat}(\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{K}_{\Pi})$  denotes the set of ground instances of preference rules satisfied by  $\mathcal{B}$

[Calautti et al., 2022]



# Preferred repairs based on preference rules

## Example

$\text{Lung}(x) \succ \text{Breast}(x) \leftarrow \exists y \text{ primaryTumor}(y, x) \wedge \text{LungCancer}(y)$

$\text{Breast}(x) \succ \text{Lung}(x) \leftarrow \exists y \text{ primaryTumor}(y, x) \wedge \text{BreastCancer}(y)$

$\text{Lung}(x) \wedge \text{Breast}(x) \rightarrow \perp$

$\text{LungCancer}(x) \wedge \text{BreastCancer}(x) \rightarrow \perp$

$\text{primaryTumor}(d, o)$

$\text{Lung}(o)$

$\text{Breast}(o)$

$\text{LungCancer}(d)$

$\text{BreastCancer}(d)$

$S\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K}) = \{ \{ \text{primaryTumor}(d, o), \text{Lung}(o), \text{LungCancer}(d) \},$   
 $\{ \text{primaryTumor}(d, o), \text{Breast}(o), \text{LungCancer}(d) \},$   
 $\{ \text{primaryTumor}(d, o), \text{Lung}(o), \text{BreastCancer}(d) \},$   
 $\{ \text{primaryTumor}(d, o), \text{Breast}(o), \text{BreastCancer}(d) \} \}$

$\Pi_{\subseteq}\text{-preferred} / \Pi_{\leq}\text{-preferred}: \{ \text{primaryTumor}(d, o), \text{Lung}(o), \text{LungCancer}(d) \},$   
 $\{ \text{primaryTumor}(d, o), \text{Breast}(o), \text{BreastCancer}(d) \}$

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Dataset repairs
- 3 Repair-based inconsistency-tolerant semantics
- 4 Preferred repairs
  - Preferred repairs based on a preorder over datasets
  - Optimal repairs based on a priority relation
  - Preferred repairs based on preference rules
- 5 Complexity considerations
- 6 Implementations of (preferred) repair-based semantics
- 7 Conclusion and outlook

# Complexity considerations

## Decision problems and complexity measures

Decision problems (parametrized by the kind of repair considered):

- (Preferred) repair checking
  - input:  $\mathcal{K} = \langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T} \rangle, \mathcal{R}$
  - output: 'yes' if  $\mathcal{R}$  is a (preferred) repair of  $\mathcal{K}$ , 'no' otherwise
- Boolean conjunctive query entailment under (preferred repair-based) CQA (resp. intersection, brave) semantics
  - input:  $\mathcal{K} = \langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T} \rangle, q$
  - output: 'yes' if  $q$  is entailed by  $\mathcal{K}$  under (preferred repair-based) CQA (resp. intersection, brave) semantics, 'no' otherwise

# Complexity considerations

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Complexity measures:

- Combined complexity: in terms of size of whole input
- Data complexity: in terms of size of  $\mathcal{D}$  only

# Complexity considerations

## Standard repair checking

		Data complexity	Combined complexity
DLs $S\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K})$	DL-Lite $\mathcal{R}$	in L	NL
	DL-Lite $\mathcal{R}, \sqcap$	in L	P
	$\mathcal{EL}_{\perp}$	P	P
	$\mathcal{ALC}$	DP	Exp
	$\mathcal{SHIQ}$	DP	Exp
Datalog $^{\pm}$ $S\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K})$	$L_{\perp}$	in L	PSpace
	$A_{\perp}$	in L	DExp
	$G_{\perp}$	P	2Exp
	$S_{\perp}$	in L	Exp
	$F_{\perp}$	P	Exp
ICs $S\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K})$	FD	in L	in L
	DC	in L	DP
ICs $S\text{-Rep}_{\Delta}(\mathcal{K})$	full TGD	P	DP
	UC	coNP	$\Pi_2^P$
	TGD	coNP	$\Pi_3^P$

# Complexity considerations

## Standard repair checking

		Data complexity	Combined complexity
DLs $S\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K})$	DL-Lite <sub>R</sub>	in L	NL
	DL-Lite <sub>R, \sqcap</sub>	in L	P
	$\mathcal{EL}_{\perp}$	P	P
	$\mathcal{ACC}$	DP	Exp
	$\mathcal{SHIQ}$	DP	Exp
Datalog <sup>±</sup> $S\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K})$	L <sub>⊥</sub>	in L	PSpace
	A <sub>⊥</sub>	in L	DExp
	G <sub>⊥</sub>	P	2Exp
	S <sub>⊥</sub>	in L	Exp
	F <sub>⊥</sub>	P	Exp
ICs $S\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K})$	FD	in L	in L
	DC	in L	DP
ICs $S\text{-Rep}_{\Delta}(\mathcal{K})$	full TGD	P	DP
	UC	coNP	$\Pi_2^P$
	TGD	coNP	$\Pi_3^P$

## Main algorithms:

- **Non-deterministic algorithm**
  - check that  $\mathcal{R}$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -consistent
  - to show that  $\mathcal{R}$  does **not** minimally differ from  $\mathcal{D}$ , guess  $\mathcal{R}'$  such that  $\langle \mathcal{R}', \mathcal{T} \rangle \not\models \perp$  and  $\mathcal{R}' \Delta \mathcal{D} \subsetneq \mathcal{R} \Delta \mathcal{D}$
- **Deterministic algorithm** for  $\subseteq$ -repairs (KB / denial constraints)
  - check that  $\mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{R}$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -consistent
  - check that for each  $\alpha \in \mathcal{D} \setminus \mathcal{R}$ ,  $\langle \mathcal{R} \cup \{\alpha\}, \mathcal{T} \rangle \models \perp$

# Complexity considerations

BCQ entailment under CQA (resp. intersection, brave) semantics

		Data complexity			Combined complexity		
		CQA	Int.	brave	CQA	Int.	brave
DLs $S\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K})$	$\text{DL-Lite}_{\mathcal{R}}$	coNP	in $\text{AC}^0$	in $\text{AC}^0$	$\Pi_2^P$	NP	NP
	$\text{DL-Lite}_{\mathcal{R},\Pi}$	coNP	in $\text{AC}^0$	in $\text{AC}^0$	$\Pi_2^P$	$\Theta_2^P$	NP
	$\mathcal{EL}_{\perp}$	coNP	coNP	NP	$\Pi_2^P$	$\Theta_2^P$	NP
	$\mathcal{ALC}$	$\Pi_2^P$	$\Pi_2^P$	$\Sigma_2^P$	Exp	Exp	Exp
	$\text{SHIQ}$	$\Pi_2^P$	$\Pi_2^P$	$\Sigma_2^P$	2Exp	2Exp	2Exp
Datalog $^{\pm}$ $S\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K})$	$\text{L}_{\perp}$	coNP	in $\text{AC}^0$	in $\text{AC}^0$	PSpace	PSpace	PSpace
	$\text{A}_{\perp}$	coNP	in $\text{AC}^0$	in $\text{AC}^0$	$\text{P}^{\text{NExp}}$	$\text{P}^{\text{NExp}}$	$\text{P}^{\text{NExp}}$
	$\text{G}_{\perp}$	coNP	coNP	NP	2Exp	2Exp	2Exp
	$\text{S}_{\perp}$	coNP	in $\text{AC}^0$	in $\text{AC}^0$	Exp	Exp	Exp
	$\text{F}_{\perp}$	coNP	coNP	NP	Exp	Exp	Exp
ICs $S\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K})$	FD	coNP	in $\text{AC}^0$	in $\text{AC}^0$	$\Pi_2^P$		
	DC	coNP	in $\text{AC}^0$	in $\text{AC}^0$	$\Pi_2^P$		
ICs $S\text{-Rep}_{\Delta}(\mathcal{K})$	full TGD	coNP	coNP	P	Exp		
	UC	$\Pi_2^P$	$\Pi_2^P$	$\Sigma_2^P$	$\Pi_2^{\text{Exp}}$		
	TGD	undec.			undec.		

# Complexity considerations

BCQ entailment under CQA (resp. intersection, brave) semantics

		Data complexity			Combined complexity		
		CQA	Int.	brave	CQA	Int.	brave
DLs $S\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K})$	DL-Lite <sub>R</sub>	coNP	in AC <sup>0</sup>	in AC <sup>0</sup>	$\Pi_2^P$	NP	NP
	DL-Lite <sub>R, \Pi</sub>	coNP	in AC <sup>0</sup>	in AC <sup>0</sup>	$\Pi_2^P$	$\Theta_2^P$	NP
	$\mathcal{EL}_\perp$	coNP	coNP	NP	$\Pi_2^P$	$\Theta_2^P$	NP
	$\mathcal{ALC}$	$\Pi_2^P$	$\Pi_2^P$	$\Sigma_2^P$	Exp	Exp	Exp
	$\mathcal{SHIQ}$	$\Pi_2^P$	$\Pi_2^P$	$\Sigma_2^P$	2Exp	2Exp	2Exp
Datalog <sup>±</sup> $S\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K})$	L <sub>⊥</sub>	coNP	in AC <sup>0</sup>	in AC <sup>0</sup>	PSpace	PSpace	PSpace
	A <sub>⊥</sub>	coNP	in AC <sup>0</sup>	in AC <sup>0</sup>	p <sup>NExp</sup>	p <sup>NExp</sup>	p <sup>NExp</sup>
	G <sub>⊥</sub>	coNP	coNP	NP	2Exp	2Exp	2Exp
	S <sub>⊥</sub>	coNP	in AC <sup>0</sup>	in AC <sup>0</sup>	Exp	Exp	Exp
	F <sub>⊥</sub>	coNP	coNP	NP	Exp	Exp	Exp
ICs $S\text{-Rep}(\mathcal{K})$	FD	coNP	in AC <sup>0</sup>	in AC <sup>0</sup>	$\Pi_2^P$		
	DC	coNP	in AC <sup>0</sup>	in AC <sup>0</sup>	$\Pi_2^P$		
ICs $S\text{-Rep}_\Delta(\mathcal{K})$	full TGD	coNP	coNP	P	Exp		
	UC	$\Pi_2^P$	$\Pi_2^P$	$\Sigma_2^P$	$\Pi_2^{\text{Exp}}$		
	TGD	undec.			undec.		

Main algorithms:

- **Brave/not CQA**: guess repair  $\mathcal{R}$  such that  $\langle \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{T} \rangle \models q / \langle \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{T} \rangle \not\models q$
- **Not intersection**: guess  $\mathcal{B} = \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n\}$  and repairs  $\mathcal{R}_1, \dots, \mathcal{R}_n$  such that  $\alpha_i \notin \mathcal{R}_i$  and  $\langle \mathcal{D} \setminus \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{T} \rangle \not\models q$
- **AC<sup>0</sup> upper bounds** via FO rewriting  
 $\mathcal{T} = \{A \sqsubseteq B, A \sqsubseteq \neg C\}$ ,  $q(x) = B(x) \Rightarrow q_{\cap}^{\mathcal{T}}(x) = B(x) \vee (A(x) \wedge \neg C(x))$



# Complexity considerations

Impact of using preferred repairs on data complexity

	Repair checking	CQA	Intersection	Brave
$\leq$ -optimal	coNP	$\Theta_2^P$	$\Theta_2^P$	$\Theta_2^P$
$\leq_w$ -optimal	coNP	$\Delta_2^P \dagger$	$\Delta_2^P \dagger$	$\Delta_2^P \dagger$
$\leq_P$ -optimal	coNP	$\Delta_2^P \dagger$	$\Delta_2^P \dagger$	$\Delta_2^P \dagger$
$\subseteq_P$ -optimal	in P	coNP	coNP	NP
Pareto-optimal	in P	coNP	coNP	NP
Completion-optimal	in P	coNP	coNP	NP
Globally-optimal	coNP	$\Pi_2^P$	$\Pi_2^P$	$\Sigma_2^P$
$\Pi_{\subseteq}$ -preferred	coNP	$\Pi_2^P$	$\Pi_2^P$	$\Sigma_2^P$
$\Pi_{\leq}$ -preferred	coNP	$\Theta_2^P$	$\Theta_2^P$	$\Theta_2^P$

$\dagger$ :  $\Theta_2^P$  if there is a data-independent bound on the weights/number of priority levels

**Upper bounds:**  $\subseteq$ -repairs and languages with consistency checking/BCQ entailment in P

**Lower bounds:** DL-Lite<sub>core</sub>, functional dependencies, or negative constraints

# Complexity considerations

## Impact of using preferred repairs on data complexity

	Repair checking	CQA	Intersection	Brave
$\leq$ -optimal	coNP	$\Theta_2^P$	$\Theta_2^P$	$\Theta_2^P$
$\leq_w$ -optimal	coNP	$\Delta_2^P \dagger$	$\Delta_2^P \dagger$	$\Delta_2^P \dagger$
$\leq_P$ -optimal	coNP	$\Delta_2^P \dagger$	$\Delta_2^P \dagger$	$\Delta_2^P \dagger$
$\subseteq_P$ -optimal	in P	coNP	coNP	NP
Pareto-optimal	in P	coNP	coNP	NP
Completion-optimal	in P	coNP	coNP	NP
Globally-optimal	coNP	$\Pi_2^P$	$\Pi_2^P$	$\Sigma_2^P$
$\Pi_{\subseteq}$ -preferred	coNP	$\Pi_2^P$	$\Pi_2^P$	$\Sigma_2^P$
$\Pi_{\leq}$ -preferred	coNP	$\Theta_2^P$	$\Theta_2^P$	$\Theta_2^P$

$\dagger$ :  $\Theta_2^P$  if there is a data-independent bound on the weights/number of priority levels

Upper bounds:  $\subseteq$ -repairs and languages with consistency checking/BCQ entailment in P

Lower bounds: DL-Lite<sub>core</sub>, functional dependencies, or negative constraints

Three cases:

- Repair checking/CQA have same complexity as with standard repairs: “local” preference, no need to guess/compute another preferred repair
- Can compute the value of a global parameter (weight...) and use it to check that a  $\mathcal{T}$ -consistent subset of  $\mathcal{D}$  is a preferred repair
- No better option than relying on the naïve guess-and-check algorithm to decide whether a repair is (not) preferred

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- 7 Conclusion and outlook

# Implementations of (preferred) repair-based semantics

## Existing implementations

- Target **different settings**: database with different kinds of constraints and queries, knowledge bases in different languages
- Target **different semantics**: CQA, intersection, brave, others, based on standard or different kinds of preferred repairs
- Often rely on external **solvers** (SAT, ASP, BIP...) for hard problems
- Often use **rewriting techniques** for simpler problems

# Implementations of (preferred) repair-based semantics

Example of SAT-based approach: the ORBITS system

Semantics considered by ORBITS:

- CQA, intersection and brave semantics
- Standard, Pareto- and completion-optimal repairs

Setting: prioritized KB (or database with denial constraints)  $\mathcal{K}_{\succ}$

- Case where conflicts contain at most two facts: conflicts and priority relation can be represented as a directed graph such that there is an edge from  $\alpha$  to  $\beta$  if  $\{\alpha, \beta\}$  is a conflict and  $\alpha \not\succ \beta$
- Input: directed conflict graph + potential answers and their causes (minimal sets of facts that support the answer)
- Output: answers that hold under the required semantics

[Bienvenu and Bourgaux, 2022]

# Implementations of (preferred) repair-based semantics

Example of SAT-based approach: the ORBITS system

High-level algorithm:

- Filter answers that **trivially holds under (preferred repair-based) intersection semantics in polynomial time**: those which have causes without any fact with outgoing edge in the directed conflict graph
- Check **remaining potential answers** using a **SAT solver**
  - possibility to choose among several algorithms and encoding variants

# Implementations of (preferred) repair-based semantics

Example of SAT-based approach: the ORBITS system

High-level ideas underlying SAT encodings:

- Try to **build a subset of  $\mathcal{D}$  that fulfills some conditions**: assigning variable  $x_\alpha$  to true means that fact  $\alpha$  belongs to the subset
- Consider only **relevant facts**
- **X-CQA**: build a set of facts that can be extended to an X-optimal repair that **does not contain any cause** for the query
- **X-brave**: build a set of facts that **contains a cause** of the query and can be extended to an X-optimal repair
- **X-intersection**: **for each cause**, find a set of facts that **does not contain it** and can be extended to an X-optimal repair

# Implementations of (preferred) repair-based semantics

Example of SAT-based approach: the ORBITS system

Modular SAT encodings with basic building blocks:

- Absence of a cause (two encoding variants)
- Presence of a cause
- Consistency of selected facts
- Extension to X-optimal repair (two variants for Pareto-optimal repairs)

Example: CQA based on Pareto-optimal repairs

$$\Phi_{\text{P-CQA}}(q) = \left( \bigwedge_{\mathcal{C} \in \text{Causes}(q, \mathcal{K})} \varphi_{\neg \mathcal{C}} \right) \wedge \varphi_{\text{P-max}}(F) \wedge \varphi_{\text{cons}}(F') \text{ where:}$$

$$\varphi_{\neg \mathcal{C}} = \bigvee_{\alpha \in \mathcal{C}} \bigvee_{\alpha \perp \beta, \alpha \not\prec \beta} x_{\beta} \quad \varphi_{\text{P-max}}(F) = \bigwedge_{\alpha \in R(F)} (x_{\alpha} \vee \bigvee_{\alpha \perp \beta, \alpha \not\prec \beta} x_{\beta})$$

$$\varphi_{\text{cons}}(F') = \bigwedge_{\alpha, \beta \in F', \alpha \perp \beta} (\neg x_{\alpha} \vee \neg x_{\beta})$$

$F = \{\beta \mid x_{\beta} \text{ occurs in } \bigwedge_{\mathcal{C} \in \text{Causes}(q, \mathcal{K})} \varphi_{\neg \mathcal{C}}\}$ ,  $F' = \{\beta \mid x_{\beta} \text{ occurs in } \varphi_{\text{P-max}}(F)\}$ ,  
and  $R(F)$  is the set of facts reachable from  $F$  in the directed conflict graph



# Implementations of (preferred) repair-based semantics

Example of SAT-based approach: the ORBITS system

## Algorithms

- Four generic algorithms, applicable to X-CQA, X-brave and X-intersection
  - one makes a single SAT call for each candidate answer
  - the others treat all candidate answers together (global encoding with soft clauses representing answers) with different reasoning modes
- Another algorithm for X-brave and X-intersection
  - check cause by cause
- Two algorithms for X-intersection keeping track of facts in the intersection of X-optimal repairs
  - cause by cause and fact by fact
  - all relevant facts together

Encouraging experimental results but the choice of algorithm/encoding variant for a given semantics may make a significant difference

Runtimes of query answering under CQA with standard versus optimal repairs: depend of the specific problem

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- Many inconsistency-tolerant semantics, most of them based on repairs
- Different kinds of preferred repairs
- Some repairs related to other formalisms for inconsistency-handling (abstract argumentation, active integrity constraints)
- Using preferred repairs often increases the computational complexity of reasoning but not always
- Implemented systems, often based on reductions and use of solvers

Inconsistency-handling with (preferred) repairs is an active line of research

- Practical algorithms and implementations still lacking for many cases
- Extensions of repair-based semantics to new settings
  - RDF graphs and SHACL constraints
  - graph databases
  - temporal databases/KBs
  - ...
- Reasoning tasks beyond query answering
  - query result explanations (why/why not true under a given semantics)
  - abduction
  - ...

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